

House Resolution 1904

By: Representative Burkhalter of the 50th

A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing and commending Mr. John H. Downs, Jr.; and for other purposes.

2 WHEREAS, Mr. John H. Downs, Jr., has long been recognized by the citizens of this state
3 for the vital role that he has played in leadership and his deep personal commitment to the
4 welfare of the citizens of Georgia; and

5 WHEREAS, Mr. Downs has diligently and conscientiously devoted his time, talents, and
6 energy to Coca-Cola Enterprises for 23 years, currently serving as senior vice president of
7 Public Affairs and Communications; and

8 WHEREAS, as vice president, Mr. Downs is responsible for government relations and issues
9 management, corporate responsibility and sustainability, crisis communications, media
10 relations and external communications, employee and executive communications, and
11 community relations; and

12 WHEREAS, a graduate of Washington College, Mr. Downs began his career in government
13 relations as a legislative assistant to the Speaker of the House in Maryland and has served as
14 Director of Governmental Affairs at the Glass Packaging Institute and Director of State and
15 Local Governmental Affairs for the American Beverage Association; and

16 WHEREAS, Mr. Downs joined the Mid-Atlantic Coca-Cola Bottling Company in 1986 as
17 vice president of administration and public affairs and moved through the ranks to the
18 positions of vice president of corporate affairs for Coca-Cola Enterprises' North Group and
19 vice president of public affairs and communications of Coca-Cola Enterprises before he was
20 appointed to his current position in 1999; and

21 WHEREAS, his significant organizational and leadership talents, his remarkable patience
22 and diplomacy, his keen sense of vision, and his sensitivity to the needs of others have earned
23 him the respect and admiration of his colleagues and associates; and

24 WHEREAS, his leadership has been instrumental on numerous boards, including the
25 Coca-Cola Foundation, the Coca-Cola Bottlers' Association Board of Governors, Chairman
26 of the Coca-Cola Enterprises Charitable Foundation, the Georgia and Cobb County
27 Chambers of Commerce, Morehouse School of Medicine, Voices for Georgia's Children, and
28 the Georgia Public Policy Foundation; and

29 WHEREAS, it is abundantly fitting and proper that the extraordinary accomplishments of
30 this distinguished Georgian be appropriately recognized.

31 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
32 the members of this body recognize Mr. John H. Downs, Jr., for his dedicated, efficient, and
33 effective leadership with Coca-Cola Enterprises and commend his selfless service uplifting
34 the lives of others.

35 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized
36 and directed to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to Mr. John H. Downs, Jr.